

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-22 and 24-30 are pending and stand ready for further action on the merits.

The above-amendment to the specification and claims has been made in response to the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 2 and 4-10 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner objects to the phrase "a strength at 5% elongation in the longitudinal direction of 150cN/10mm or less" as appearing in lines 3-4 of claim 1. The Examiner believes that the dimensions for this strength characteristic should be " $\text{mm}^2$ " and not "mm".

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

In measuring the strength, the test piece has a width of 10 mm. Although "cN" is occasionally used by convention, technically the correct strength unit is "cN/mm<sup>2</sup>/10mm." This would be evident from the standard experiment JIS K7127, as described on page 7, line 22 of the present specification.

In view of this fact, Applicants have herein amended the claims and the specification to recite that the correct strength unit is "cN/mm<sup>2</sup>/10mm." As such, the claims particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants' comments in the December 1, 2003 Amendment are herein incorporated by reference.

Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and comments, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. A notice to such effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning this application, he is requested to contact Garth M. Dahlen, Ph.D., Esq., (#43,575) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.


Respectfully submitted,

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By 

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